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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 9 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the letter addressed to you by the Israeli Representative to the United Nations, dated 6 March 2001 (A/55/823-S/2001/197), and its attachment, the exchanged letters of mutual recognition signed by Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin in September of 1993. I refer as well to other previous letters by the representative of Israel, which contained similar accusations levelled at the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian leadership.

The crux of the Palestinian-Israeli peace process is indeed the mutual recognition between the two sides and the agreement to implement Security Council resolution 242 (1967) upon conclusion of a transitional period of five years. However, in spite of the achievements of the peace process, the Israeli side has over the years adopted many policies undermining the process and its crux as well as its successful conclusion. The new Israeli Government, even after the end of the transitional period and it extensions, is calling for yet another interim agreement, thus attempting to escape implementation of resolution 242 and abandon existing agreements altogether.

With regard to the ongoing Israeli military campaign against the Palestinian people, which began on 28 September 2000, Israeli accusations are indeed preposterous. It is the Israeli occupying army and the Israeli settlers who are killing and wounding Palestinian civilians and who are effectively and severely punishing the entire Palestinian population under occupation, using the most sophisticated military machinery. Until now, we have nevertheless taken Israeli accusations as attempts to divert attention from reality and to evade responsibility, albeit partially. However, we believe that the increasing intensity of those accusations, including the above-mentioned letter, might indicate Israeli preparation for even worse and much more dangerous actions.

Several hostile Israeli statements allude to such a possibility as well, including statements by the Chief of Staff of the Israeli occupying army, Lt. General Shaul

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Mofaz, who bears special responsibility for the illegal actions of the Israeli occupying forces, and some ministers in the new Israeli Government. For example, on 7 March 2001, the Israeli Public Security minister, Uzi Landau, stated that it was "not enough to build defensive walls, we must take the battle into the adversary's camp". Further, Minister Ze'evi, in an article in the Ma'ariv newspaper on 4 March 2001, affirmed that he and his movement called for the transfer of Palestinians as a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. In defending his position, he claimed that other historic Israeli leaders had supported transfer and that some of them had even carried it out in 1948.

We are sharing our serious concerns in this regard with the international community so that it is forewarned and remains vigilant in order to contribute to the prevention of potentially worse Israeli positions and actions against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian leadership.

In the meanwhile, the bloody Israeli military campaign against our people continues. Today, Israeli settlers shot a Palestinian shepherd, who is now in critical condition, claiming that he exhibited a "threatening posture". I also wish to refer to previous letters to you on the matter, dated from 29 September 2000 to 2 March 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2000/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2000/175; and A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189). Since my last letter to you on 2 March, five more Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces, bringing the total number of Palestinian martyrs to 371 persons. (The names of the five martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) Many more have also been injured, including 20 wounded just today.

At the same time, in addition to the closure being imposed by Israel, the occupying Power, on the entire Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, since 7 March the Israeli occupying forces have isolated Bir Zeit University and the surrounding area in the West Bank, which is home to 70,000 individuals. Such closures, curfews and measures of isolation continue to devastate the already difficult socio-economic conditions of the entire Palestinian territory.

We repeat our urgent call for the provision of protection for the Palestinian civilians and the establishment of the United Nations observer force in this regard.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as documents of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 9 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Saturday, 3 March 2001 through Monday, 5 March 2001)

Saturday, 3 March 2001

1. Aida Dawoud Feteha
2. Baher Shafeek Odeh
3. Ahmed Mohammed Hassan Allan

Sunday, 4 March 2001

Ra'ed Shehdah Al-Halees

Monday, 5 March 2001

Osama Ibrahim Naghnaghiah

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Security Council

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General Assembly
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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 12 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, continues with its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people. Yesterday, the occupying Power even escalated its severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods by surrounding the city of Ramallah in the Occupied West Bank and many other populated Palestinian areas. The Israeli army built new roadblocks, dug trenches around certain areas and bulldozed paved roads in some locations for the direct purpose of preventing Palestinian movement. Moreover, the Israeli army sent in additional tanks as part of these measures of siege.

It is distressing to note that the above-mentioned actions are among the first of the new Israeli government of Ariel Sharon since it took office, a signal of the impending increasing dangers facing the Palestinian people. In fact, an Israeli source has described these additional measures as moving from a "breathing siege" to a "suffocating siege". Indeed, the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation are now suffocated and besieged.

Also today, the Israeli army shot and killed another Palestinian civilian and injured more than 20 of those who were demonstrating against the siege of the city of Ramallah. This killing brings the total number of Palestinian martyrs since my last letter to you, on 9 March 2001 (A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209) to 373 persons. (The names of the two martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

We are calling upon the Security Council to convene an immediate meeting to consider the increasingly dangerous situation on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, with the aim of taking the necessary measures, including the establishment of a United Nations observer force to contribute in providing protection for the Palestinian civilians.

Further, please note that this letter is in follow-up to my previous letters to you, dated from 29 September 2000 to 9 March 2001, on this very serious matter (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-

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S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES/-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; and A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209).

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 12 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the to President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Saturday, 10 March 2001 through Monday, 12 March 2001)

Saturday, 10 March 2001

1. Eyad Sa'di Ayyad

Monday, 12 March 2001

1. Abdelkader Mohammed Ibrahim

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General Assembly
Security Council

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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 16 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

As the Security Council continues to debate the deteriorating situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the call for the establishment of a United Nations observer force to protect Palestinian civilians, several more Palestinian martyrs have died as a result of the lethal force and brutal practices of the Israeli occupying forces. In the past few days, three Palestinian civilians have been shot and killed by the occupying forces, while two others have died as a result of Israel's ongoing closure of the Occupied Territory, which has prevented civilians from reaching hospitals in emergency situations.

Despite its so-called "easing" of the siege, Israel, the occupying Power, continues its intense siege of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, dividing the territory and isolating the Palestinian people from each other and from the outside world. This siege has severely restricted the movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Territory. As a result of such measures, Palestinian civilians have been prevented from gaining access to proper medical care, food, education, and their jobs. The closures have seriously affected all sectors of Palestinian society and every aspect of Palestinian life, with a critically debilitating impact on the Palestinian economy.

At the same time, the Israeli occupying forces continue to carry out other brutal practices and destruction of infrastructure throughout the Occupied Territory. In a dangerous incident yesterday, 15 March, in the Palestinian city of Al-Khalil (Hebron), which has been under a continuous siege for months, Israeli troops threw a stun grenade into the courtyard of a school, burning and injuring several Palestinian children. At least six children suffered burns to the hands, neck, and back. The school is located near an illegal Israeli settlement in the city, where 400 fanatic settlers live and continue to cause tension, hardship and misery for the over 120,000 Palestinian civilians who live in Al-Khalil.

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In follow-up to my previous letters to you on this very serious matter, which date from 29 September 2000 to 12 March 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2000/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2000/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; and A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226), I regret to inform you that the total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces since September has risen to 376 persons. (The names of those martyred since my last letter to you on 12 March 2001 are contained in the annex to the present letter.) In addition, as noted above, two Palestinians have died as a result of being prevented by Israeli soldiers from reaching hospital, while many other Palestinian civilians have been seriously injured as a result of the excessive use of force by the Israeli army and the perpetual violence of Israeli settlers.

Your Excellency, at this critical time, we reaffirm that the international community has a duty to bring all illegal actions by Israel, the occupying Power, to an end, including the cessation of the excessive use of force by the occupying forces against Palestinian civilians and the total lifting of the siege and not just a so-called "easing" of these measures. We reiterate our call to the Security Council to shoulder its responsibility by taking the necessary measures in this regard, including the establishment of a United Nations observer force to contribute to providing protection for the Palestinian civilians and to bringing stability to the area.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 21 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In spite of the fact that the United Nations Security Council remains seized of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Israel, the occupying Power, continues with its bloody military campaign, its punitive measures and its illegal actions against the Palestinian people. Today, a 4-year-old Palestinian boy died after the Israeli army prevented him from travelling from the Gaza Strip to Egypt for emergency heart surgery, another victim of Israel's ongoing closure of the Occupied Territory. The boy's father indicated that they had in fact tried to cross the border five times without success.

At the same time, Israel continues to pursue its illegal settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Yesterday, Israeli authorities approved the building of almost 3,000 more units in the illegal Jewish settlement of Jabal Abu Ghneim to the south of Occupied East Jerusalem. It is to be recalled that the start of the construction of this illegal settlement led to the convening of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and that construction continued in flagrant violation of the relevant resolutions of the Assembly and resolutions of the Security Council. This new decision also blatantly contradicts indications made by the new Israeli government that it would freeze settlement activities.

Since my last letter to you, dated 16 March 2001, 1 more Palestinian martyr was killed by the Israeli occupying forces, bringing the total number of Palestinians killed since 28 September to 377 people. I am attaching the name of the martyr in the annex to the present letter in follow-up of my recent letters to you on this matter, dated from 29 September 2000 to 16 March 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-

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S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; and A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239). In addition, I wish to also draw attention to the fact that many more Palestinian civilians continue to be injured, some severely, by the actions of the Israeli occupying forces.

I would also like to refer to the letter from the Israeli Permanent Representative to the Secretary-General, dated 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), and the dangerous and false accusations therein directed against the Palestinian Authority. We categorically reject those accusations, as well as reject terms such as "Palestinian terrorism", and we perceive these allegations to be an indication of the ill intentions on the part of the Israeli side towards returning us to a pre-peace process mentality and culture. At the same time, we wish to make clear that we hold many Israeli officials responsible for war crimes and other serious violations of international law and international humanitarian law that are being committed by the Israeli occupying soldiers and the illegal settlers against the Palestinian people. We believe it is the duty of the international community to deal with this serious matter at the appropriate time, including identifying specific responsibilities and taking the necessary legal actions in this regard.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 21 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem

Saturday, 17 March 2001

1. Mohammed Ismail Hashem Nasser (10 years old)

Names of martyrs who died as a result of closure measures by Israel, the occupying Power

Wednesday, 21 March 2001

1. Abdel Fattah Al-Sbakhi (4 years old) (prevented by Israeli blockade from reaching hospital — heart condition)

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 28 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestinian to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The bloody Israeli military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, continues unabated. Today, at around 8 p.m. (Palestine time), Israeli occupying forces launched fire from helicopter gunships, tanks and other heavy artillery, shelling targets in the city of Ramallah and the city of Gaza as well as other locations in the Gaza Strip for approximately an hour. At least one person was killed and more than 60 people were injured in these attacks. Further, in addition to the destruction of property, the heavy shelling caused intense fear and anxiety among the Palestinian civilian population living in those areas.

Also today, a Palestinian woman was shot and killed by machine gun fire from an Israeli helicopter while she was walking in a village south west of Ramallah. In addition the situation in Al-Khalil (Hebron) remains very dangerous and tense with increased shooting and shelling by the occupied forces and violence by the illegal settlers in the city and has even included the unprecedented evacuation of a whole neighbourhood by the occupying forces. These additional criminal acts committed by the Israeli occupying forces and approved by Mr. Ariel Sharon and his government represent yet another escalation of force by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people.

As you are aware, yesterday, the Security Council was prevented from fulfilling its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security due to the negative vote of a permanent member on a draft resolution (S/2001/270) addressing the situation on the ground, including the issue of the provision of protection for the Palestinian people. We believe that this unfortunate failure by the Council was understood by Israel, the occupying Power, as encouragement to continue pursuing its bloody campaign, committing grave breaches of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and violations of relevant Security Council resolutions against the Palestinian people.

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In follow-up to my recent letters to you, dated from 29 September 2000 to 21 March 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES/-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; and A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255), I regret to inform you that, since my last letter, five Palestinian martyrs, excluding today's martyrs, have been killed by the Israeli occupying forces. This brings the total number of Palestinians killed since 28 September to 382. (The names of the five martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) In the past few days, many more Palestinians have also been injured by excessive force used by the Israeli occupying forces. Meanwhile, the Israeli siege and closure of the Occupied Palestinian Territory continues, with its devastating impact on the socio-economic conditions of the Palestinian people.

At this time, we cannot but reiterate our calls for the international community to take the necessary measures to help bring an end to the bloody Israeli military campaign that continues to be waged against our people.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 28 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Wednesday, 21 March through Tuesday, 27 March 2001)

Wednesday, 21 March 2001

Kamel Saleh Al-Jamal

Friday, 23 March 2001

Osama Hassan Salim

Sunday, 25 March 2001

Hassan Mansour (15 years old)

Monday, 26 March 2001

Sabri Ahmed Al-Khathala

Tuesday, 27 March 2001

Mahmoud Ismail Al-Darawiesh (14 years old)

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 29 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, persists with its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. The Israeli occupying forces continue today to terrorize and traumatize the Palestinian civilian population living under the brutal Israeli occupation. For the past six months, the Palestinian people have endured the violent actions and punitive measures of the occupying Power. Such actions and measures against the Palestinian people have resulted in hundreds of killings, including of children, thousands of serious injuries, the destruction of property and infrastructure, including buildings, roads, and agricultural fields, and the devastation of the Palestinian economy. In pursuing this violent military campaign, Israel, the occupying Power, continues to commit grave breaches of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 1949 and violate international law, including Security Council resolutions. We hold the Israeli government of Mr. Ariel Sharon responsible for the war crimes and actions committed by the Israeli occupying forces, which are akin to State terrorism.

Today, the Israeli occupying forces continued to use heavy artillery against Palestinian targets in the Occupied Territory, and it has been reported that Israel's security cabinet is planning more strikes in the coming days. As noted in my letter to you on 28 March 2001, the bombings carried out yesterday in Ramallah and Gaza caused the deaths of two Palestinians and extensive damage to buildings of the Palestinian Authority. Moreover, these attacks by helicopter gunships and tanks have caused widespread fear and anxiety among the Palestinian civilian populations in the targeted cities. In this regard, it must be emphasized that the targets of recent Israeli air and land attacks have been located in the midst of civilian residential neighbourhoods and have thus endangered the lives of thousands of people — children, women and men.

Further, in addition to the bombings in Ramallah and Gaza, the Israeli occupying forces have continued shelling Palestinian neighbourhoods in Al-Khalil.

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The Palestinian people in Al-Khalil have been living under an intense siege that has been exacerbated by this shelling and shooting by the Israeli army and the violent actions, including the burning of Palestinian property, being perpetrated by the extremist illegal settlers in the city.

In this regard, in follow-up to my previous letters to you, dated from 29 September 2000 to 28 March 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; and A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284), it is my deep regret to inform you that yesterday two Palestinian martyrs, in addition to the two mentioned in my letter yesterday, were killed and four more martyrs were killed today by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of eight martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) The killing of those Palestinians, including three children under 18 years of age, brings the total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by the Israeli occupying forces to 390 people. At the same time, the ongoing shelling and shooting by the Israeli army has caused the injury of dozens more Palestinian civilians in recent days, many seriously.

In light of the continuing Israeli military campaign against the Palestinian people, and the grave possibility of its further escalation, we are compelled to reiterate our call for the international community to take the necessary and appropriate measures to bring this bloody and violent campaign to an end. In this regard, we stress once again the urgent need for providing protection for the Palestinian people, who continue to endure extensive loss of life, injuries and destruction as a result of the illegal policies and actions of the occupying Power. The international community must bear its responsibilities in this regard for the maintenance of peace and security and for the saving of human lives.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as an official document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 29 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Wednesday, 28 March through Thursday, 29 March 2001)

Wednesday, 28 March 2001

1. Khayriah Kassem Ali Kashaksha
2. Yehia Fathi Mohammed Sheikh Al-Eid (11 years old)
3. Akram Al-Hindi
4. Suad Khalil Ei'tewi

Thursday, 29 March 2001

1. Hussam Ghanem Al-Krunz
2. Mahmoud Khaled Shehada (16 years old)
3. Mahmoud Sulieman Abu Shamlah (15 years old)
4. Ehab Mohammed Abu Huleil

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 30 March 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, is continuing and escalating its bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Today, on the occasion of Land Day, Palestinians demonstrated throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory in commemoration of the killing by the Israeli police of six Israeli Arabs during a demonstration against the confiscation of thousands of hectares of Arab-owned land in 1976. Israeli occupying forces responded to today's demonstration with the use of lethal force, killing five Palestinians, including two who were hit by large-calibre fire that disfigured their faces beyond recognition, as well as injuring 150 Palestinians, including at least 10 in serious condition.

Also today, Israeli tanks shelled Al-Khalil (Hebron) and illegal Israeli settlers torched several homes, shops and cars owned by inhabitants of the city. In addition, and indicating the Israeli intention of even more escalation, Israeli Defence Minister Mr. Binyamin Ben-Eliezer has said today that Israel would send forces to "any place we feel ... is endangering us". We warn against the Israeli escalation and hod the Israeli Government of Mr. Ariel Sharon responsible for the war crimes and other actions committed by the Israeli occupying forces as well as by the illegal settlers against our people.

In follow-up to my previous letters to you, dated from 29 September 2000 to 29 March 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-

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S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; and A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295), I regret to inform you that today's killings by the Israeli occupying forces of the five Palestinians whose names are annexed to this letter brings the total number of Palestinian martyrs to 395, in addition to the increase in the number of Palestinian injuries.

We reiterate our call for the international community, specifically for the Security Council, to take the necessary and appropriate measures to bring the Israeli bloody military campaign to an end and to provide protection for the Palestinian civilians.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem

Friday, 30 March 2001

1. Mohammed Abdel Muhsen El-Wawi
2. Ayish Ghazi Zamel
3. Ahmed Marahil
4. Sha'ban Selwan
5. Murad Shrai'aah

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 2 April 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The Israeli occupying forces persist with their bloody campaign against the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Today, Israeli occupying forces resumed the criminal practice of extrajudicial killings. An Israeli helicopter fired missiles at a pick-up truck near the town of Rafah, instantly killing the person inside the car.

Yesterday, Israeli occupying forces covered by helicopters and tanks entered an area under full Palestinian control near the city of Ramallah and attacked a small camp of Palestinian security forces, abducting 5 persons. The above actions, grave breaches of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 1949, represent additional war crimes committed by Israel, the occupying Power. They are also actions akin to state terrorism perpetuated against the Palestinian people. We hold the Israeli government of Mr. Ariel Sharon responsible for all those actions and their consequences.

In follow-up to my previous letters to you, dated from 29 September 2000 to 30 March 2001 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES/10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES/10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; and A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304), I regret to inform you that 4 more Palestinians were killed by Israeli security forces, including 1 martyr who was killed on Friday, 30 March 2001, after our last letter was sent (the names of the martyrs are

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annexed to the present letter as well as the correction of the last name of a martyr on Friday, 30 March 2001). In addition, the number of Palestinians wounded and injured, many severely and permanently, by the Israeli occupying forces continues to rise.

We reiterate our call for the international community and the Security Council to take immediate action to bring all illegal Israeli actions to an immediate end and to provide protection for the Palestinian civilians.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 2 April 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli security forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Friday, 30 March, through Monday, 2 April 2001)

Friday, 30 March 2001

1. Khaled Al-Nahla

Correction: the name of the martyr Sha'ban Selwan included in (A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304) of Friday, 30 March 2001, should read Sha'ban Saloum.

Saturday, 31 March 2001

1. Waheed Nassri Al-Deek

Sunday, 1 April 2001

1. Lo'ay Mohammed Hussein Al-Tamimi (11 years old) (died from wounds sustained on 15 March 2001)

Monday, 2 April 2001

1. Mohammed Atwah Abdel Al

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 5 April 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Today, 5 April 2001, Israel, the occupying Power, committed yet another extrajudicial killing of a Palestinian civilian, assassinating a man while he stood in a public telephone booth in the town of Jenin. Apparently, the telephone booth was booby-trapped, a method that has been used before by the Israeli occupying forces in committing such crimes against Palestinians.

In another condemnable and extremely dangerous development, soldiers of the Israeli occupying forces shot at Palestinian high security officials, who were returning from a Palestinian-Israeli meeting, immediately after the convoy in which those officials were travelling passed the Israeli checkpoint into Gaza. Two of the cars were heavily hit by gunfire and three bodyguards were injured. This attack raises very serious questions regarding the conduct of some officers of the Israeli occupying forces and the relationship between the military and political levels in Israel.

On another front, the Israeli government took additional steps concerning illegal settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. These steps relate to both the building of a new settlement and the expansion of existing settlements, including the one at Jabal Abu Ghneim.

Further, today, Israeli occupying forces killed a 15-year-old boy by shooting him in the chest near the "Netzarim" settlement in the middle of the Gaza Strip. This killing raises the total number of Palestinians killed by the Israeli occupying forces, since 28 September 2000, to 401 martyrs. In reference to my previous letters to you on this grave matter (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000-993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185;

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A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2000/131, A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2000/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; and A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314), I am enclosing in the annex to this letter the names of the additional two martyrs since my last letter to you on 2 April 2001.

In this regard, I also regret to inform you that the number of injuries sustained by Palestinian civilians as a result of the excessive use of lethal force by the Israeli occupying army also continues to rise. On 3 April 2001, the Israeli occupying forces once again used Israeli helicopter gunships to assault Palestinian areas, firing missiles at four different locations throughout the Gaza Strip. At least 50 people were injured as a result of this shelling, in addition to the severe damage caused to infrastructure and the widespread fear and panic caused among the civilian populations in those areas.

We call upon the international community and the United Nations Security Council in specific to undertake measures to bring an end to Israel's bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people. In this regard, we once again stress the urgency of providing protection to the Palestinian civilians living under the oppressive and brutal Israeli occupation.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 5 April 2001 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem (Thursday, 5 April 2001)

Thursday, 5 April 2001

1. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Attar (15 years old)
2. Eyad Mohammed Hardan

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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 5 April 2001 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I should like to draw your attention to the dangerously escalating conflict in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the position of the Committee in that regard.

The Committee is extremely disturbed by the continuing violence and bloodshed on the ground. The reliance of the Israel Defence Forces on excessive military power, including artillery, tanks, helicopter gunships and missile boats, in recent days in particular, has resulted in many deaths and injuries. The loss of life, especially that of children, is always tragic, transcending national and religious lines. The death toll of the last six months has now exceeded 460, mostly among Palestinians. This is an unequal confrontation, with a high human cost, especially for the Palestinian people. Confined to their towns and villages because of the Israeli blockade, the Palestinians are subjected on a daily basis to gunfire, bombardments, extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests and detention, as well as the destruction of property and infrastructure.

Compounding the desperate straits of the Palestinian people are the disastrous state of the economy, the dispossessing effects of the Israeli settlement expansion and repeated closures of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. As these policies of the Israeli occupation continue, the Committee reiterates the need for the Government of Israel to abide scrupulously by its legal obligations and responsibilities under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949. Continued failure on the part of Israel to live up to the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention will bring even greater suffering and dispossession to the Palestinian people and will lead to an increased volatility in the entire region.

The current crisis should not be allowed to persist. Accumulating frustration and anger will only fuel the flames of violence and empower the most extreme

01-32509 (E) 090401

elements on both sides, taking the parties farther away from the ultimate goal of achieving peace. The Committee is of the view that, in the circumstances, the parties may need outside assistance in order to break out of the vicious circle of violence. A more assertive approach may be considered — one that would benefit both sides and help restore calm. The international community should take prompt, concrete and resolute steps with a view to preventing any further exacerbation of the situation and bringing the parties back to the negotiating side.

We firmly believe that the international community has a moral responsibility towards the Palestinian people, which has been striving to exercise its inalienable rights for so long. In this context, the Committee reiterates its long-held view that the United Nations should continue to maintain its permanent responsibility towards all the aspects of the question of Palestine until it is resolved in a satisfactory manner, in conformity with relevant United Nations resolutions and norms of international law, and until the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are fully realized.

Our Committee appreciates and strongly supports the important facilitating role that you are playing in the peace process. We urge you to continue to remain actively and closely engaged with the parties, directly as well through the United Nations Special Coordinator, in an effort to end the violence and resume the historic dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians. Also, in the light of the recent discussions in the Security Council, we believe that steps could be taken by the United Nations to ensure protection of Palestinian civilians, including through the setting up of a protection mechanism in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibra Deguène **Ka**
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the
Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

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Security Council
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Compounding the desperate straits of the Palestinian people are the disastrous state of the economy, the dispossessing effects of the Israeli settlement expansion and repeated closures of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. As these policies of the Israeli occupation continue, the Committee reiterates the need for the Government of Israel to abide scrupulously by its legal obligations and responsibilities under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949. Continued failure on the part of Israel to live up to the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention will bring even greater suffering and dispossession to the Palestinian people and will lead to an increased volatility in the entire region.

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The current crisis should not be allowed to persist. Accumulating frustration and anger will only fuel the flames of violence and empower the most extreme elements on both sides, taking the parties farther away from the ultimate goal of achieving peace. The Committee is of the view that, in the circumstances, the parties may need outside assistance in order to break out of the vicious circle of violence. A more assertive approach may be considered — one that would benefit both sides and help restore calm. The international community should take prompt, concrete and resolute steps with a view to preventing any further exacerbation of the situation and bringing the parties back to the negotiating table.

We firmly believe that the international community has a moral responsibility towards the Palestinian people, which has been striving to exercise its inalienable rights for so long. In this context, the Committee reiterates its long-held view that the United Nations should continue to maintain its permanent responsibility towards all the aspects of the question of Palestine until it is resolved in a satisfactory manner, in conformity with relevant United Nations resolutions and norms of international law, and until the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are fully realized.

Our Committee appreciates and strongly supports the important facilitating role played by the Secretary-General in the peace process. We have urged the Secretary-General to continue to remain actively and closely engaged with the parties, directly as well as through the United Nations Special Coordinator, in an effort to end the violence and resume the historic dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians. Also, in the light of the recent discussions in the Security Council, we believe that steps could be taken by the United Nations to ensure protection of Palestinian civilians, including through the setting up of a protection mechanism in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibra Deguène **Ka**
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the
Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People